

PRAIRIES

Making People Neighbors in the  of the Dakotas

WINTER 1980



INSIDE—

- Christmas Recipes
- Humble Beginnings
(Part II)

RUEB, REV. GEORGE
PO BOX 508
ASHLEY ND 58413
OCT 1980



5 minutes & \$1.50 later.

Your uncle in Boston.

Your brother in St. Louis.

Your grandfather in Houston.

A 5-minute long distance call can make any of these wonderful people smile for just \$1.50 or less. It costs so little to call anyone in the 48 states when you dial direct without operator assistance after 5 PM weekdays. And long distance is even less on weekends. So go ahead. Smile America. make someone happy today — by long distance.



Northwestern Bell



CATTLE BY pond on a cold day near Long Lake.



INSIDE

Humble Beginnings (Part II)	Page 4
Down Memory Lane	Page 6
Christmas Recipes	Page 7
Postscripts	Page 8



3308 JAN 77 M.P. 50

VOLUME 6, NO. 3 • WINTER 1980

PRAIRIES is published quarterly by Warren Overlie, Ashley, North Dakota 58413. Yearly subscription price is \$4.80. Single copy price is \$1.50. Second class postage paid at Ashley, North Dakota 58413. Postmaster: Send form 3579 to PRAIRIES, Ashley, North Dakota 58413.



Backgrounds

Part II

Humble Beginnings

Story of a German-Russian pioneer family

The following are excerpts from a family history about the Woesznors who settled near Ashley in the 1890s. It is written by Leona Neu of Ashley.

I remember two sod houses still in use as I grew up. One was the Alfred Fregien home on the farm near our school. Mrs. Fregien had beautiful geraniums growing on the deep window sills which were larger than those in the first houses. On the former Gottfried Maier farm was a sod house too. The Sackmann home was made of sod, as stated, but all under one roof was the granary (grain storage) and the cattle shelter (barn). The granary and cattle shelter were later removed. Only the house and lean-to were kept.

WHEN MARIE WAS SIX, the family moved to Ashley. Since she was the youngest in the family, her father was very close to her. Grandmother Sackmann liked to travel and she would expect Marie to do the household chores. One time, Marie was to prepare the yeast for baking bread the next day but she didn't know that it was her task. When Grandmother became very upset about it, Marie unfortunately replied: "If you would not always be gone —" That's as far as she got. Grandmother, who didn't think that that remark was called for, let out with a hand across Marie's behind!

Their home in Ashley was located at 122 2nd Ave. SE where the Andrew Sackmann and Maggie Bauer homes are now. The house was later moved to 401 3rd Ave. NW and is now the home of Paul Becker. It was Grandmother Sackmann's duty to take care of the chores. The family had chickens and cows to help supply the family needs. Often there would be more than the family could use and Marie would deliver a bucket of milk to the John Schaeffers. For a half-gallon of milk, they received 10 cents. However, in the empty bucket, Marie would find goodies such as candy and cookies. Schaeffer later moved to Eureka, S.D. where the family established a sheet metal shop which is still a business to this day. The water supply for the Sackmann family came from a well at the Christian Spitzer home, which was located where the Jacob Groszhans home is now. All the water had to be carried from there. Years later, cisterns were made to collect rain water from the roof of the house. Many had the cistern pump in the house, which was a great convenience.

MARIE DIDN'T HAVE to attend school since it was voluntary to attend at that time. Grandfather Sackmann, who was a very learned person, taught her reading from the Bible as this was about the only reading material on hand. School attendance was fine if no other work was to be done. Therefore, Marie only went to school until she reached the third grade. She was then to go and help her brothers and sisters with raising their families and doing the house work or field work. Much of her time was spent with the Jacob Kessel family (her sister Fredricka's family). They had two children, Martha and Ted. Many days of hard work and long hours were part of living there.

One time while helping at the Andrew Sackmann home (her brother), Marie had to carry water from a lake to the house. Andy, who liked to come along, ran ahead and splashed in the water with the board that was laid into the lake to walk on. That muddied the water so it could not be used. He got a spanking from Marie and to this day he says he will not forget it.

In 1918, the year of the flu epidemic, Marie was staying with the Andrew Sackmann family. All the family members became ill with the flu and were in their beds with no concern about anything. Marie tried the best she knew how to make them comfortable. In trying to keep the house warm, she used kerosene to spark the flames in the stove. It exploded and down came the stove pipes. She was helpless to do anything about it since she was only 14. Neighbors John C. Bertsch and Christian Maier came to check on the family and restored the pipes and helped clean up the mess of soot. While the family was sick, a storm came up and the flock of sheep wandered along with the storm and again the neighbors came and turned them back and took care of the farm animals.

That same year Marie got an ear infection. It was very painful and since only home remedies were used to cure the infection, it took a long time to heal and left her weak for a long while.

Some of her youth days were spent with other young people of the area. But Grandfather decided who were to be her friends. Some were told not to show up again.

THEN CAME WORLD WAR I and many of the young men relatives and friends were drafted into the service. One young man by the name of Fischer, who was a helper in Grandfather Sackmann's shop, was also called to serve in the army. Marie remembers the time he left. It was on a Good Friday when many of the town's people gathered at the train depot to see them off. The band played while goodbyes were said. It was heartbreaking. This Fischer boy later married a girl from Ashley, a Miss Schaeffer, and they resided in Eureka where he was custodian for the hospital.

At the time when the first airplane came to Ashley, and Marie met Jacob J. Woeszner, Jacob had a car by then. On Sundays, when he came to visit, he would come by car, but if he came during the week while Marie worked for her brothers or sister, Jacob J. would come on horseback. His favorite horse was a white "Schimmel" by the name of Roose. Dating usually happened once a week but then if the weather was nice, and there wasn't too much work, maybe once during the week too.

Marie also did housework for other people. One family who needed help was the William Hildenbrands. Mrs. Hildenbrand had had surgery, and so Marie took care of their three children Leona, Agnes, and Edgar. They were very young at the time, and so she had to take the mother's role. She spent many months with the family until the mother was able to do the work herself. Hildenbrand was fond of rabbit, and so he got one

for Marie to prepare. It was not her favorite food but to please her master she cooked it.

As the romance of Jacob J. and Marie went on, the time came for more serious talk. So Jacob J. came to the Sackmann home and asked Father Sackmann for Marie's hand in marriage. The next step was for the parents of Jacob J. to meet with the Sackmann parents. A day was set for the wedding and plans were made for the reception.

The engagement ring was a gold ring with a single ruby set in a high crown. The day of the wedding was set for Sunday, November 11, 1923.

PREPARATION FOR THE wedding took several days. The reception was to be at the Woeszner farm home. Sister Susan Fink and her baby daughter, Bernice, came to the Woesznors to help with the baking and other preparations.

Because of the pastor's schedule, the wedding ceremony was not at the home church, but at Zion II, a neighboring church known as the Biederstadt church, several miles northeast of the Woeszner farm.

On Sunday, November 11, the day of the wedding, the families of the couple assembled at the Woeszner home. Before departure for the church, devotions were held with Father Sackmann in charge. It was the practice to have prayer with the couple and their families before the ceremony. Since Gottlieb Kessel had a car with glass windows (a great improvement to curtains), he had the honor of taking the couple to the church. This was the Sunday when the Zion II congregation celebrated its annual mission festival. Also, after the service, there was a baptismal service. So the wedding party had to wait in the church's entry until the wedding ceremony began. There was much teasing about the wait. After all, which comes first? The wedding or the baptism?!

The bride was attired in a brown dress (above-the-knee style), low waisted with a skirt of fine pleated panels. She wore a fine net veil held with an orange blossom headpiece. The groom wore a dark suit, purchased at Straub's of Ashley, which was one of the best clothier stores in Ashley, and had the best suit available. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Bergstadt, with Daniel Patzer and Gottlieb Kessel as witnesses. After the ceremony the guests assembled at the Woeszner home for a dinner. Guests were the brothers and sisters of the couple, a few friends and neighbors.

Having receptions at the home meant moving out the furniture and setting up makeshift tables and benches to seat all the guests. The cooks were kept busy in the kitchen for several days since cleaning up after the wedding meant another day or two of work and more time for celebrating.

Gifts received at the wedding were: two long-stemmed goblets, two china cups and saucers inscribed with "Brother"—from sister Fredricka Kessel. (She couldn't get them inscribed "Sister.") From sister Susanna they received a Pyrex casserole in a chrome stand, a sugar and creamer set from the Dan Patzers, berry bowl and serving dishes from Aunt Fredricka Schulz, and a doilie from the Martin Sackmanns.

THE BRIDE SPENT many hours making linens for her hope-chest, among which were tablecloths with wide crochet edges, dresser scarfs with crochet insets, towels, bedding and sofa pillows, and others.

Furniture for their new home was purchased with the money Marie had earned doing housework for other people. Whatever else was needed for housekeeping, Father Sackmann bought. Also, added to the dowry were three cows which Father Sackmann purchased from Father Woeszner.

Viola Sackmann Maier says she remembers the wedding party driving through the Gottfried Schlabsz farm on their way to the church. The young men of the area gathered there and shot their guns into the air to salute the bridal couple as they passed by. Some of the young men were Marie's relatives.

The newly married couple made their home on the farm with Grandfather and Grandmother Woeszner, and also Jacob J.'s youngest sister, Bertha, who was still living at home. Sharing living quarters involved lots of give and take.

In the spring of the following year, the parents bought a home in Ashley. The house, which was once located at 609 1st Ave. SE, has now been moved to the farm of Ellis Puhlmann, which is about one and one-half miles northeast of the Woeszner farm. They moved to this new home in May 1924. In September 1924, Bertha was married to Edmond Kusler.

Grandparents lived in their purchased home until 1926, when they decided to build a new house. This is at 524 Center Ave. S., and is now the home of Bertha Fischer. This home was always spotlessly clean. In fact, there was no kitchen on the main floor and, for the most part, they lived in the basement. To further keep the house from getting any wear and tear, they covered the scatter rugs with newspaper. The front basement room was their dining room and living area and was furnished with a table, cupboard and cook stove. The second room was the furnace room, but that is where most of the cooking was done on a kerosene stove. Shelves behind the door with a curtain the pantry supplies. The cellar was supplied with all kinds of canned foods and the smell of cottage cheese was always present. I can still see that small cream separator setting on the wooden box. It was a one-gallon size and looked like a toy. It was hand-cranked and needed daily washing which was a tiresome chore. A milk cow supplied their needs for dairy products. The barn west of the house was the quarters for the chickens, hay, feed, storage and garage for the Model T Ford. The large garden was fenced in with woven wire. The big old tom cat was the master of the yard. If he came to the garden gate, he would make his

A bowl of ice cream was a big treat!

presence known and had to be lifted across the fence or the garden gate had to be opened for him. His menu consisted of bread and cheese. He refused to drink milk. It had to be made into cheese.

G

GRANDMOTHER WOESZNER KEPT herself busy with all kinds of crafts and needlework. She made cross-stitch rugs. She would dye material from used clothes and cut it into narrow strips. The base for her rugs were gunny sacks in which local grocery stores got walnuts. They were a finer quality than regular sacks. She had her own special design of roses and borders. Some rugs were round, others rectangular. To keep them flat, she would put the rugs under the mattress to press. As far as we know, she made rugs for all the family members and grandchildren. Many more she sold or gave as gifts. The total came to a hundred, she told us.

Quilts were all handmade. Some designs were the "Flower Garden," "Wedding Ring," and "Double Ring." Not many women did a good enough job to satisfy Grandmother Woeszner, but a friend of hers, Mrs. G.D. Grosz, was an exception. Still, many hours were spent by herself.

Grandfather Woeszner took care of the housework, garden, cow and chickens. He used the dust cloth daily to keep the house spotless. The house had four rooms on the main floor, two bedrooms, dining and parlor. The parlor was never used. I was sometimes allowed to use the pump organ. Electricity was used only for lights. The only appliance they ever had was an electric coffee pot, and I doubt if it was ever used. The cistern supplied their water needs. The pump was in the basement. The cistern box, outdoors, was Grandfather's favorite spot to sit and rest. It was also the coolest place to keep food. Buckets attached to a rope were let down to the water and food was stored in them.

In summer time, Grandfather Woeszner would come to the farm and help with the work. I remember often he would come in time to hear the Bohemian Band over radio station WNAX, Yankton, S.D. He liked to hear march music as it reminded him of music in his homeland of South Russia.

We children would see the Model T come and would run to open the farm gate for him. We were sure he'd wave his hand as he passed by. If there ever was a kind person, it was Grandpa Woeszner. We were sure to get a treat of candy every time he came to the farm. Before he went home after a day's work, he stopped at the well and pumped water by hand to fill the water trough.

He was a modest man. He helped build the Pioneer Memorial on the south shore of Lake Hoskins. It is built of native rock and is erected in honor of McIntosh County's pioneers. Into these rocks are carved the names of the early settlers. But Grandpa Jakob did not want his name carved into a rock because, as he said, "In my life, I've had to work too hard with rocks." The structure was planned and erected by Herbert Larimer. The memorial was completed in 1935. The Sunshine Homemakers Club (of which I am a member) maintains the memorial grounds. Additional shrubs and flowers were planted in 1976. The Lake Hoskins Park was planned and trees were planted in the early 30s. Grandfather Jakob helped plant trees. During the dry years, they carried water by buckets from the lake to the young trees to help them survive the heat and drought.

IN THE CUPBOARD at their house was a pint ice cream container. It held nickels and dimes. Everytime we came to their house and told Grandfather of all that had happened on the farm during the week, he would hand out some of those nickels or dimes. We were to go and buy some ice cream "to cool off the heart." There was nothing to equal that flavor! Sometimes we would take a pint of ice cream to their house. Grandmother would not eat any. She was too fussy about she ate. No commercial foods! But Grandfather would take his dish of ice cream with a piece of bread and sit next to the cook stove, let the ice cream melt some, and then enjoy it.

When we were ready to go home, Grandfather would follow us to the car and wish us



Mrs. Andreas Sackmann, nee Karolina Schiabsz.

well on our way. Grandmother was usually too busy. She usually kept on with her work unless we came to eat a meal there. Grandfather would start the coffee and set the table. I remember that most meals were canned sausage, cheese, bread, and jelly. Most of the time there were some molasses cookies and often some chocolate pudding left over from breakfast—that is one thing Grandmother made every morning for herself.

They attended the Lutheran church faithfully, but most of the rest of their time was spent quietly at home. They had a few close neighbors who came to visit. During the 30s, the dusty years, it took good management to keep living on their savings and small income. Their only income was from land they still owned. Even though there were no crops during those lean years, taxes had to be paid. The farm was sold to son Jacob J. who had saved money to pay off the debt, but Grandfather told them to keep their money for a while yet. In the meantime, the banks closed up, the money was lost, and the debt was still to be paid. Grandfather had lost some of their savings too. Later, he was given ownership of a bank building in Ashley to replace the money he had lost in the bank. Grandfather sold it to Gust Pfahl.

On August 3, 1938, Grandfather woke up feeling sick. As he got out of bed, he collapsed and died a few hours later. We had no telephone at the farm, so Andy Sackmann came and told us of Grandfather's attack. But by the time Mom and Dad got to town he had already died. I remember the night before he died there was a thunderstorm with dust and no rain. Every spot in the house was covered with dust.

The funeral was on Sunday, August 7. The coffin was at the house until the day of the funeral. Family members would be in the room most of the time and relatives and friends would come to the house to call on the family. Four flower girls carried the floral sprays at the funeral, a practice which is not used anymore. It was not allowed to have anyone from any other church take part in the services in the Lutheran church.

IN THE MEANTIME, the Daniel Patzers had sold their home in Kulm and they moved in with Grandmother Woeszner in Ashley. A few weeks later they moved to Lodi, California. It was Grandmother's dream to see California, and so they took her along. She became very homesick and lonely. She wrote and asked us to come out also, but since that wasn't possible, we had our family photograph taken and sent it to her instead. We were told later, when Grandmother received the picture, she remarked: "Ich han denkt, Jacob, du kommst selber." ("I thought, son, you would come in person.") Grandmother made a pair of pillow cases for me with crochet insets and edges since I wrote to her in German while she was in California.

In early June 1939, Grandmother's health began to fail and she wanted to return to Ashley. Since the Patzers had not planned to come back to North Dakota at that time, arrangements were made for Grandmother to make the trip back with Pastor and Mrs. Rossen (a Nazarene pastor). We went to see her after she arrived home, but she was not well. She always talked about what we were to do once she died. A few days later when Aunt Martha Krause left her home, Grandmother wanted her to take the key along and lock the house from the outside in case she couldn't get up in the morning. And so it happened. The next morning, when they came to her door, it was still closed. They found her in her bed. She had quietly died in her sleep, June 11, 1939, at the age of 71.

The Sackmann grandparents lived in their house in Ashley. He had retired after he got out of the harness shop business. He died suddenly at his home of a heart attack on June 16, 1925. He was 62.

Grandmother Sackmann remained in her home in Ashley until July 18, 1927 when she married Daniel Roloff at Kulm. She moved to Kulm to make her home there for three and one-half years.

I remember visiting with them at their home in Kulm. It was located on the school block across the street from Patzer's house. Grandmother used to get very homesick for her Ashley friends. The step-grandfather was a very kind person and was very good to us. He did all he could to make Grandmother happy. She became ill and was taken to a Bismarck hospital for a time, after which she went to her daughter Susan's home in Ashley. She died on October 24, 1931 at the age of 68. The family was with her at the time of her death. □



Jakob Woeszner and wife, Anna Maria, nee Biederstadt.



DOWN MEMORY LANE—This is a photograph of the John Dobler family. In the photo in the front row are (l. to r.): Rinehold Dobler of Spokane, Wash., John Dobler (who lived in Ashley), and Art Dobler of Dickinson.

In the middle row: Johanna Rosland of Marion; Pauline Werre of Ashley; Olga Sackmann of Ashley; Emma Lukey of Snohmish, Wash.; and Ida Werre of Spokane, Wash.

Back row: Maggie Eszlinger of Sacramento, Calif.; Emil Dobler of Dickinson and Jake Dobler of Sacramento. The mother of the family died in 1938, and the father died in 1966. Jake died in 1978. Another daughter, Adeline, died as an eight-month infant. The photo was submitted by Pauline Werre.

Attention, Subscribers.

The spring 1981 issue will be the last issue of PRAIRIES. Thank you for your support in the past. We have enjoyed writing about the people of the Dakotas in PRAIRIES. Thank you again for your interest.

—Warren Overlie



What's Cooking?

Scandinavian Christmas recipes

The following are recipes from Norwegian settlers which are popular at Christmas-time:

Christmas Salad

- 2 pkgs. lime jello
- 2 pkgs. red jello
- 1 pkg. lemon jello
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ cup celery
- ½ cup nuts
- 1 No. 2 can crushed pineapple, drained
- ½ pt. whipped cream
- ½ lb. marshmallows

Make the 2 pkgs. red jello. Let set until firm. Make lemon jello and let cool until lukewarm. Mix in all other ingredients into lemon jello. Pour over red jello. Let set until solid. Then make 2 green jello and pour over lemon mixture. Serves 15.

Best Ever Date Pudding

- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup milk
- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup chopped dates
- 1 cup chopped nut meats

Mix above ingredients and pour batter in pan (10x10") and cover with the following mixture.

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 Tbs. butter
- 2 cups boiling water

Bake in moderate oven (350°) for 30 minutes. This is very good served warm with milk or cold with whipped cream.

Cranberry Salad

- 1 lb. cranberries
- ¼ lb. marshmallows
- 1 small can crushed pineapple (undrained)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 pkg. cherry jello
- 1 cup boiling water
- ½ cup whipped cream

Put cranberries and marshmallows through food grinder. Add sugar and pineapple and let stand at least 2 hours. Dissolve jello in boiling water and let cool. Combine with cranberry mixture. Fold in whipped cream and pour into mold.

Danish Kringle

- ¾ cup softened butter

Cream with ¼ cup flour until light. Spread with spatula on wax paper to make a 10x4 inch rectangle. Chill.

- Crumble 1 cake compressed yeast in ¼ cup lukewarm water.
- ½ cup scalded milk, cool to lukewarm
- 1 beaten egg
- 3 Tbs. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt

Add yeast and water to the above mixture. Beat in 3 cups

flour, a little at a time. Do not get too stiff. Knead. Roll out on floured board, 12 inches square and place butter on dough. Remove the paper. Fold dough over butter from both sides. Then fold in 3's. Repeat, roll out to 8x16 in., repeat folding and rolling 2 more times. Wrap in wax paper and chill 30 minutes. Roll to 12x14 inches. Cut in half lengthwise. Spread the following filling down center of each strip, fold over it from both sides. Seal edges with milk. Put in greased pans and flatten out with hand. Be careful to not break so filling runs out. Brush with egg whites and sprinkle with sugar and nuts. Let rest 20 minutes. Bake in 375° oven for 20 minutes.

FILLING

- Put in mixer:
- ¼ cup soft butter
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 Tbs. cream

Add 1 cup raisins that have been soaked in boiling water.

Swedish Coffee Cake

- 1 cup flour
- ½ cup butter
- 2 Tbs. water or cream

Mix the above like pie crust.

FILLING OR TOPPING

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup flour
- ½ cup butter

Cook as for cream puffs. Cool, add 3 eggs, one at a time. 1 Tbs. almond flavoring. Put on top of pie dough mixture and bake in 400° oven for 20 minutes. Cool. Frost with powdered sugar icing. Add ½ tsp. almond flavoring.

Raised Abelskiver

- 1 yeast cake
- ¼ cup sugar
- ½ tsp. salt
- 5 eggs separated
- 2 Tbs. melted shortening
- 5 cups flour
- 1 cup rich milk

Mix yeast, sugar, salt and egg yolks, shortening and flour. Let raise until double in bulk. Mix with cream or rich milk until a little thicker than cake batter. Add egg whites well beaten. Let stand 15 minutes. Bake in hot abelskiver pan with shortening. When baking, put a tsp. of prune filling in center before turning them over.

Scalloped Oysters

Crumble enough crackers to make 2 cups of medium coarse crumbs. Pour ½ cup melted butter over the crumbs. Toss together lightly with a fork. You will need 1 pint of oysters. Drain them and save the liquid. Butter a small casserole, spread a third of the crumbs on the bottom. Cover with half of

the oysters. Now a second layer of crackers. Then the rest of the oysters. Combine oyster liquid and enough extra rich milk or cream to make 1 cup full. Pour over oysters. Top with last of crumbs. Bake in 350° oven for 40 minutes.

Dark Red Kidney Bean Casserole Dish

Put 10 or 12 medium sized meat balls in a small greased roaster. Cover with about 2 qts. of peeled and sliced potatoes. Add salt and pepper to taste. Then cover with a can of dark red kidney beans. Then pour tomato soup over all to almost cover. Bake in a moderate oven for 1 to 1½ hours or until tender.

Seafood Casserole

- 1 can crab, tuna and shrimp
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 2 cups cooked rice
- 1 cup celery
- ¼ cup onion
- 1 small green pepper
- 3 Tbs. butter
- 3 Tbs. flour
- 1½ cups milk

Saute the celery, onion and green pepper. Make white sauce of butter, flour and milk. Cool white sauce. Add mayonnaise and remaining ingredients. Top with bread crumbs. Bake 45 minutes in 300° oven. Serves 8.

Salmon Loaf

- 1 can salmon (minced)
- 1 Tbs. melted butter
- 3 eggs (beaten)
- juice of ½ lemon
- ½ cup sweet milk
- 1 cup cracker crumbs
- pinch of salt

Pack into small loaf pan and bake ½ hour or until firm in 350° oven.

Baked Chicken Supreme

Stew chicken and pick meat from bones. Grind skin or discard as you prefer. Make gravy from the following:

- 1 qt. chicken broth (not fat)
- 4 Tbs. flour
- 4 Tbs. chicken fat

Make dressing from the following:

- 1½ qts. bread (cubed)
- 1½ lbs. melted butter
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1½ tsp. sage
- 2 Tbs. chopped onion (if desired)
- 2 Tbs. chopped celery (if desired)

Put chicken in baking dish and cover with dry dressing and pour

the gravy over all. Bake until done and nicely browned.

Sweet Pepper Relish

- 1 bunch celery
- 12 green sweet peppers
- 16 red sweet peppers
- 12 onions

Grind through coarse grinder, pour boiling water over the ground vegetables and let stand 5 minutes. Drain and add:

- 1 tsp. mustard seed
- 1 tsp. celery seed
- 3 cups vinegar
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 tsp. salt

Let all this come to a boil. Boil 20 minutes and seal in sterilized jars. —Mrs. Emery Carlsen

Apple Dumplings

Put in a deep pan (at least 4 inches deep) 1 cup sugar and fill pan ¼ full of water and bring to boiling point. Set aside while preparing the following:

- 2 cups flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- ¼ cup shortening
- 1 tsp. sugar
- ½ tsp. salt

Add milk to make a soft dough to roll to about ¼ inch or ½ inch thick. Cut into about 4 inch squares and make slits through it lengthwise and crosswise for juice to penetrate in and cook apples. Lay enough peeled and sliced apples on square, 1 tsp. sugar, dash of cinnamon and small bit of butter. Fold dough up around the apples and fasten. Put them into the hot syrup and bake at 350° 1 hour or until nicely brown. Can be served with milk or cream or just with the hot liquid around the apples.

Gingerbread

- 2¼ cups sifted flour
- 1½ tsp. soda
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. ginger
- ¼ tsp. allspice
- ¼ tsp. cloves
- ¼ cup shortening
- 1 cup molasses
- ¾ cup boiling water

Sift flour, soda, Cinnamon, ginger, allspice and cloves in a bowl and make a well. Melt shortening in boiling water and then add the molasses. Stir. Pour molasses mixture into the well and beat vigorously. Pour into a greased 8x8x2 inch pan and bake 35-40 minutes in a 350° oven. Serve warm with a topping.

Recipe For Life

To make one little yellow grain Requires the sun and the rain The hoarded riches of the sod And God.

Postscripts

A column by Barbara Joan Overlie



Joyfulness is catchy!
So is grumpiness if we don't protect ourselves from the disease. Complaining also falls into this category. Why is it when we have so many things to be thankful for we pick out one problem and dwell on that instead of joyfully dwelling on the 99 pluses?

Have we become a thankless nation? We say the rain was great, BUT we could have had more! We like this person, BUT . . . too often we follow up a compliment with a negative BUT . . .

Positive, joyful, thankful, happy all go with peace of mind.

Jesus was the most joyful person who ever lived because He lived in the will of His Father. That is the only pathway to true happiness. "Nevertheless not my will but thine be done" brings happy peace into our lives.

Giving our will over to Him wipes away fear because He accepts the responsibility of whatever happens.

He is writing our story a line at a time and when the book is completed then we will know the whys and wherefores of our lives that we can't understand now. Peace is knowing that He is a very responsible author.

God has given us ears to hear His voice and a conscience to direct us in what is right and wrong. Huckleberry Finn put it well: "Conscience takes up more room than all the rest of a fellow's insides."

People have tried to explain conscience for years and whatever it is must be trained and developed. Reading the Bible to our children, grandchildren and to ourselves guides us into His perfect will for us. Verses like "The joy of the Lord is my strength," "Rejoice in the Lord, always," "Do all things without grumbling and complaining," "Work heartily for your God," all show us the attitude we must have in order to be at peace and to really be filled with joy.

And when we know we fail, the knowledge of His forgiveness brings peace. Jesus said, "Though your sins are as red as crimson, I make them like wool!"

YOUR ELLENDALE HEADQUARTERS FOR:

- Supermix Paints
- Housewares
- Giftware
- Plumbing Supplies
- Sporting Goods
- Electrical Supplies
- Hand and Power Tools
- Frankoma Pottery
- Builders' Hardware



Redmond Hardware Electric

Ellendale, N.D.

Phone 349-3268

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A SAVINGS ACCOUNT AT McINTOSH COUNTY BANK

To help you with your

Christmas giving

may we suggest



1. Crisp brand new bills.
2. Bank money orders—Cashable anywhere.
3. Savings accounts—thoughtful gifts for children.
4. Checking accounts—for your family.
5. Traveler's checks—for that winter trip.



McIntosh County Bank

Your community-minded bank!

With office at Zeeland, N.D. 58581

ASHLEY, NORTH DAKOTA 58413

Serving residents of the Ashley area since 1911.

Member FDIC. All deposits insured to \$100,000.

A FULL SERVICE BANK



Postscripts

A column by Barbara Joan Overlie



Joyfulness is catchy!
So is grumpiness if we don't protect ourselves from the disease. Complaining also falls into this category. Why is it when we have so many things to be thankful for we pick out one problem and dwell on that instead of joyfully dwelling on the 99 pluses?

Have we become a thankless nation? We say the rain was great, BUT we could have had more! We like this person, BUT . . . too often we follow up a compliment with a negative BUT . . .

Positive, joyful, thankful, happy all go with peace of mind.

Jesus was the most joyful person who ever lived because He lived in the will of His Father. That is the only pathway to true happiness. "Nevertheless not my will but thine be done" brings happy peace into our lives.

Giving our will over to Him wipes away fear because He accepts the responsibility of whatever happens.

He is writing our story a line at a time and when the book is completed then we will know the whys and wherefores of our lives that we can't understand now. Peace is knowing that He is a very responsible author.

God has given us ears to hear His voice and a conscience to direct us in what is right and wrong. Huckleberry Finn put it well: "Conscience takes up more room than all the rest of a fellow's insides."

People have tried to explain conscience for years and whatever it is must be trained and developed. Reading the Bible to our children, grandchildren and to ourselves guides us into His perfect will for us. Verses like "The joy of the Lord is my strength," "Rejoice in the Lord, always," "Do all things without grumbling and complaining," "Work heartily for your God," all show us the attitude we must have in order to be at peace and to really be filled with joy.

And when we know we fail, the knowledge of His forgiveness brings peace. Jesus said, "Though your sins are as red as crimson, I make them like wool!"

YOUR ELLENDALE
HEADQUARTERS FOR:

- Supermix Paints
- Housewares
- Giftware
- Plumbing Supplies
- Sporting Goods
- Electrical Supplies
- Hand and Power Tools
- Frankoma Pottery
- Builders' Hardware

OUR OWN
Redmond Hardware Electric

Ellendale, N.D.
Phone 349-3268

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A SAVINGS ACCOUNT AT McINTOSH COUNTY BANK

To help you with your
Christmas giving
may we suggest



1. Crisp brand new bills.
2. Bank money orders—
Cashable anywhere.
3. Savings accounts—
thoughtful gifts for
children.
4. Checking accounts—for
your family.
5. Traveler's checks—for
that winter trip.



McIntosh County Bank

Your community-minded bank!

With office at Zeeland, N.D. 58581

ASHLEY, NORTH DAKOTA 58413

Serving residents of the Ashley area
since 1911.

Member FDIC. All deposits insured to \$100,000.



PRAIRIES

Making People Neighbors in the  of the Dakotas

FALL 1980



INSIDE—

- Political Career
- Humble Beginnings
(Part I)

CRAIG, EDNA
ELLENDALE, ILL. 60120



5 minutes & \$1.50 later.

Your uncle in Boston.

Your brother in St. Louis.

Your grandfather in Houston.

A 5-minute long distance call can make any of these wonderful people smile for just \$1.50 or less. It costs so little to call anyone in the 48 states when you dial direct without operator assistance after 5 PM weekdays. And long distance is even less on weekends. So go ahead. Smile America, make someone happy today — by long distance.



Northwestern Bell



Northwestern Bell



Autumn is . . . a tired, antique tractor resting in the shade during a bright, sunny day. Prairie grasses and piles of hay complete the pastoral scene. Photo is by Hazelton.



WONDER WORKERS

Amazingly efficient Lift-Top Wonder Coal® and Lift-Top Wonder Wood®. Professionally engineered and performance-tested by U.S. Stove, America's oldest stove maker, these best-selling circulator heaters offer maximum efficiency and safety. Heavy-duty, airtight construction, durable cast-iron grates, combustion virtually 100%. Exclusive U.S. Stove positive safety latch assures top will remain upright. They cook, heat, cut heating costs significantly. Wonder Coal® burns coal or wood. Write for brochure. UNITED STATES STOVE COMPANY P.O. Box 5349 Chattanooga, TN 37406

Warm friends and hard workers since 1869

YOUR ELLENDALE HEADQUARTERS FOR:

- Supermix Paints
- Housewares
- Giftware
- Plumbing Supplies
- Sporting Goods
- Electrical Supplies
- Hand and Power Tools
- Frankoma Pottery
- Builders' Hardware



Redmond Hardware Electric

Ellendale, N.D.

Phone 345-3268

INSIDE

- Remarkable Political, Business Career Page 4
- Humble Beginnings, Part I Page 6
- Picturesque Dakotas: Leola Page 9
- What's Cooking? Page 12
- Postscripts Page 12

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, management and circulation required by the act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code, of PRAIRIES Magazine, published quarterly at Ashley, North Dakota 58413 for fall 1980. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, and business manager are: Publisher and Editor—Warren Overlie, Ashley, North Dakota 58413; Managing Editor—Warren Overlie.

10. Average number of copies printed (net press run) each during the preceding 12 months was 4,000; single issue nearest to filing date 1,000. (b) Paid circulation: (1) Sales through dealers and counter sales, average issue 0; single issue nearest filing date 0. (2) Mail subscriptions, average issue 2,500; single issue nearest filing date 935. (c) Total paid circulation, average issue 2,500; single issue nearest filing date 935. (d) Free distribution (including samples) by mail or other means, average issue 0; single issue nearest filing date 0. (2) Total distribution, average each issue 2,500; single issue nearest filing date 935. (f) Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing, average each issue 1,500; single issue nearest filing date 65. (g) Total average each issue 4,000; single issue nearest filing date 1,000. I certify that the statements are correct and complete. Warren Overlie, editor and publisher.



VOLUME 6, NO. 2 • Fall 1980

PRAIRIES is published quarterly by Warren Overlie, Ashley, North Dakota 58413. Yearly subscription price is \$4.80. Single copy price is \$1.50. Second class postage paid at Ashley, North Dakota 58413. Postmaster: Send form 3579 to PRAIRIES, Ashley, North Dakota 58413. We invite the submission of unsolicited manuscripts with an accompanying stamped envelope, but cannot assume responsibility for same. USPS 356-930.

Honoring A Remarkable Career

Papers go to University

Gail Hernett of Ashley is receiving an important honor. Some of his papers relating to his long career as a North Dakota state senator and other positions of political prominence are being taken to the Orin G. Libby Manuscript Collection. The collection is housed in the Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota

in Grand Forks.

Hernett's correspondence will highlight parts of a remarkable career which included 18 years as a member of the North Dakota Senate, 14 years as mayor of Ashley, four years as alderman of Ashley, one year as president of the North Dakota Bankers Association, and two years as

president of the Greater North Dakota Association (GNDA).

There have been other important accomplishments too. He was a director of the GNDA from 1940 until the time he was elected president, serving from 1960 to 1962. He is still the McIntosh County savings bond chairman, a post he started

at way back in 1941.

In 1975, Hernett was presented the Greater North Dakota award by the GNDA. Hernett was the fourth person to receive the award, which is given to North Dakotans who have given outstanding service either in the arts, government, science, development, or other areas of contribution.

About the award and his work with the Greater North Dakota Association, Hernett said: "I am probably most proud of having been president of GNDA, which is the North Dakota State Chamber of Commerce, for two years and of having received its Greater North Dakotan award than anything else. This is because I am the only small town North Dakotan to have been so honored. I have always felt the small town in North Dakota should have greater recognition, and I have always worked to that end."

Hernett's realization of the importance of the small town both in the state and in the nation comes from the fact that most of his life has been directly linked with small towns.

He was raised in Burnstad, and was graduated from the Burnstad High School in 1926. His father was a banker in Burnstad, and young Hernett worked there after his school graduation. He worked there for a short time, and then attended the University of North Dakota, returning again to Burnstad to go into banking.

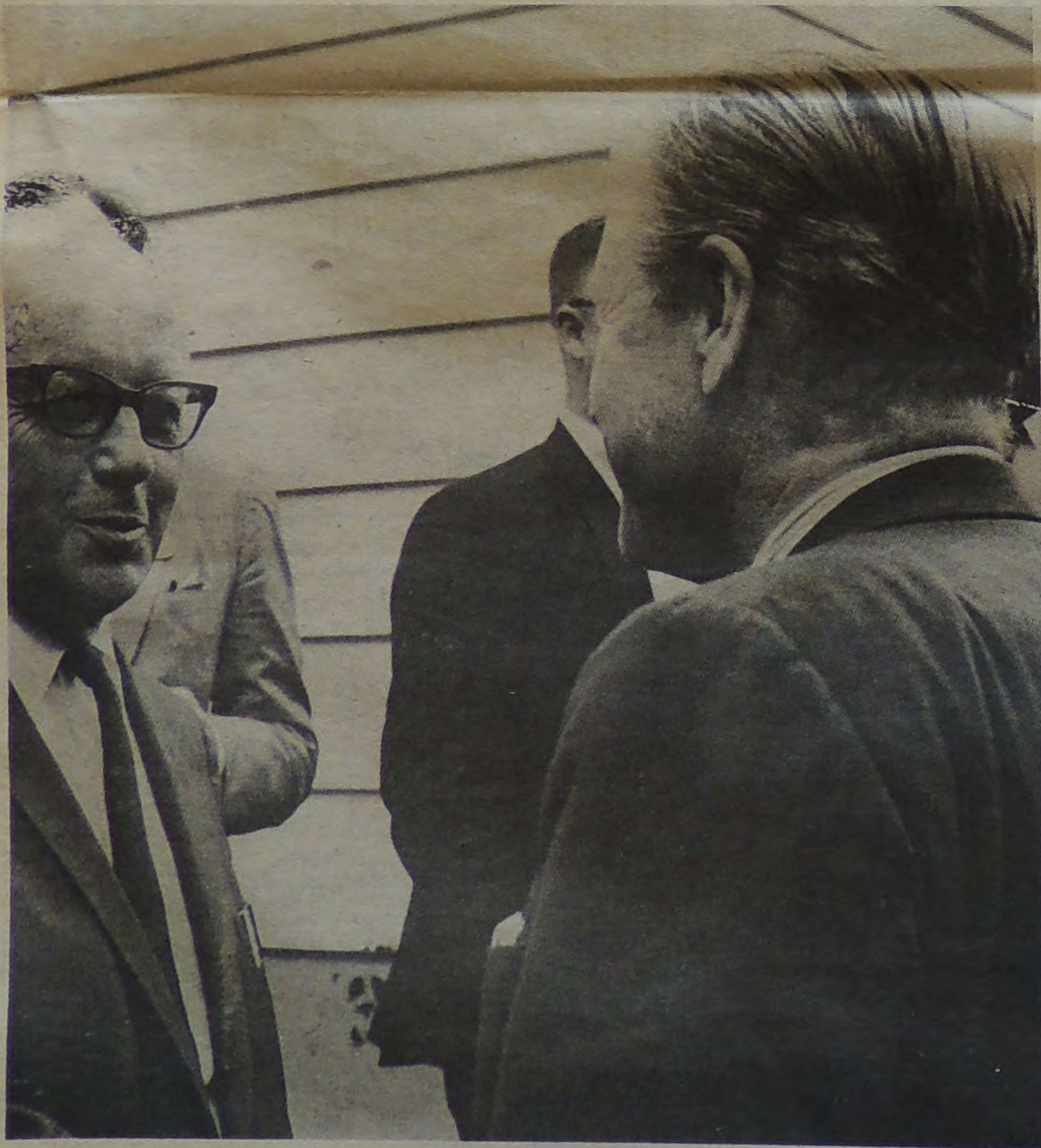
That was in the Dirty Thirties, a time of troubles that swept the entire Upper Midwest with both a severe drought and a severe economic depression.

"In those days, things couldn't be worse," said Hernett. "Farmers got only \$14 for a cow, and nobody had much money to spend."

In 1934 Hernett moved to Zeeland and later managed the bank there. In 1939 he was the executive officer of the bank at Hettinger. In 1940, the Zeeland bank was re-organized and established in Ashley and Hernett was an executive officer with it until 1963. Then later he became associated with banks at Strasburg, Carson, and Lehr.

Being so closely involved with the banking profession for so many years, he was naturally chosen to serve as an officer in banking associations. He was a member of the executive council of the American Bankers Association for six years. He served on the North Dakota state banking board for seven years, and was elected president of the North Dakota Bankers Association in 1957-58. In 1976, Hernett was presented with an award by the North Dakota Bankers Association for being a banker for 50 years.

Early in his career, Hernett became interested in government. He was elected justice of the peace for Logan County in

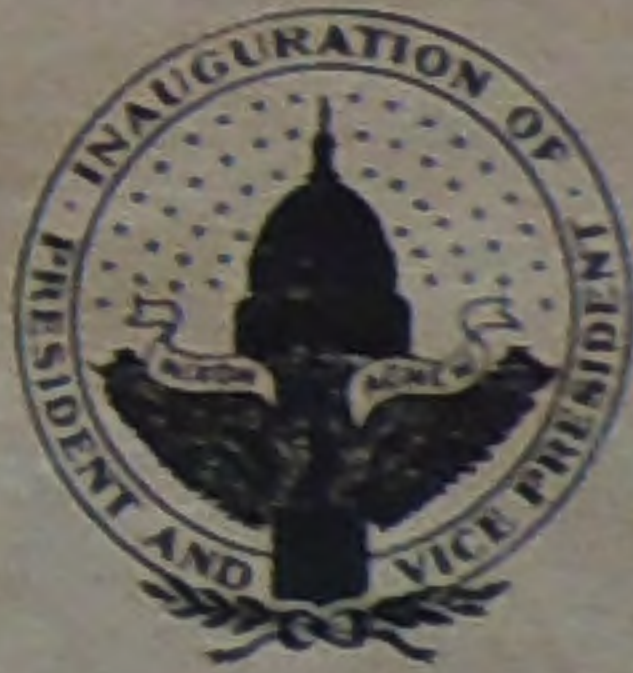


Gail Hernett (left) with the late Nelson Rockefeller.



*With our deep appreciation
for helping to make possible
our victory on November 7, 1972.*

*Richard Nixon
Patricia Nixon
Julie Nixon Eisenhower
David Eisenhower
John Nixon Cox
Edward Finch Cox*



ABOVE: A Christmas card sent to Gail
Hernett showing Richard and Pat Nixon,
their daughters and sons-in-law.
BELOW: Invitation to attend President
Nixon's inauguration, which was sent to
Gail and Juanita Hernett.

*The Inaugural Committee
requests the honor of your presence
to attend and participate in the Inauguration of
Richard Milhous Nixon
as President of the United States of America
and
Spiro Theodore Agnew
as Vice President of the United States of America
on Saturday the twentieth of January
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three
in the City of Washington*



THE UNITED STATES TREASURY
WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE
NINTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

hereby acknowledges the constructive and patriotic service rendered
to our Government by

G. H. Hernett
McIntosh County Chairman

in the successful financing of World War II, and in recognition
of such service, does hereby award this

War Service Certificate

In testimony whereof, and on behalf of the committee, the
General Chairman has hereunto affixed his signature.

J. H. Peyton
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: *C. H. Dink*
DIRECTOR OF SALES

ATTEST: *L. C. Wobayda*
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SALES



High school graduating class of
Burnstad in 1926: L. to r.: Lillian Pritzkau
of Burnstad, Gail Hernett of Ashley, and
Esther Farnam of Napoleon. Two other
class members were not present for this
photo.

PHOTO AT LEFT: Certificate
presented to Hernett in 1943 for work done
as county savings bond chairman.



Burnstad School

Photo at left shows Burnstad school,
from which Hernett was graduated.
Hernett attended the University of North
Dakota and then decided he wanted to
continue in the banking profession. He
married Juanita Jung of Venturia, and she
has helped Hernett very much in his
business and political career.

1932, later served as village clerk at
Zeeland, alderman at Ashley from 1946 to
1950, and mayor of Ashley from 1950 to
1964.

When he served as state senator from
1954 to 1972, he was a committee chairman
in the senate for 14 years, president pro-
tem of the senate, majority floor leader of
the Republican Party in 1963, and member
of the budget board in 1962-63.

Hernett was a North Dakota delegate to
the Republican Party national convention
in Miami Beach in 1968. That was the year
Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew were
nominated as president and vice
president. Hernett delivered the North
Dakota delegation's seconding speech for
Agnew.

As a senator, Hernett also served on the
state's constitutional convention in the
early 1970s with a mandate to revise North
Dakota's constitution.

Other awards and accomplishments
Hernett is proud of is an award from the
people of Logan County helping to get the
road from Highway 3 to Beaver Lake State
Park. Hernett was also instrumental in
bringing the national plowing contest to
North Dakota; this was while he was
president of the Greater North Dakota
Association.

Hernett's papers will be an important
addition to the Orin G. Libby Manuscript
Collection. The Libby Collection's main
purpose is to preserve the records of the
people and institutions of North Dakota.
Hernett's contribution to the collection will
add interesting insights into the political
and business sections covering a span of
more than 50 years. □



Backgrounds

Part I

Humble Beginnings

Story of a German-Russian pioneer family

The following are excerpts from a family history about the Woeszniers who settled near Ashley in the 1890s. It is written by Leona Neu of Ashley.

Andreas Woeszner and his wife, Magdalena Stepper, were the parents of a son, Jakob, born September 12, 1866 at Beresina, South Russia. He was baptized in the Lutheran faith on September 18 and confirmed in Klostiz, South Russia. All history of their life in Russia has not been found or recorded. They were also the parents of Dorothea, who married a Helst; Andreas, who married a Miss Zelker; Fredrich, who married Barbara Prophet; Catherina, who married Fred Beglau. No records are known of these families except that Fredrich had a son, Jacob, who was married to Carolina Biederstadt and were the parents of Fred and Robert Woeszner of Ashley. Jacob and Carolina were residents of Ashley at the time of their passing.

From what we know, Andreas Sr. died when his son, Jakob, the grandfather of Leona Neu, was three years old. His older brother took him in and provided for him until Jakob was 15. From then on, he had to fend for himself. He worked for a family in the Beresina area. No free time was allowed to working people. He told us that in order to keep busy he had to move rock piles from one place to another. His sleeping quarters were in the cattle shelter among the stalls to keep watch over the horses and prevent stealing. In the morning, the horses had come so close that

they had dirtied Jakob's bed. His lot in life was hard as a youngster.

ON JANUARY 28, 1890, he married Anna Maria Biederstadt, the daughter of Frederick Biederstadt and Elizabeth Klamens. She was born in Beresina, South Russia, January 20, 1868 and baptized the day following her birth. Confirmation day was Palm Sunday, April 10, 1883 at Klostiz. Other members in her family were Karolina, Elizabeth, Frederick, Jacob, Samuel and Christoph.

Anna Maria liked nice clothes, and since the family was large she went to work for a wealthy family in the village of Eigenheim. There she learned to cook and entertain more elegantly—and could get better clothes. After living in America she was often called upon to be the personal attendant for the brides in her neighborhood—and her experiences helped her now.

After a few months of married life, Jakob Woeszner and his wife, Anna Maria, left their families and homeland behind and started for the "Promised Land" in America. Arriving April 9, 1890, their destination was Ellendale, North Dakota.

They arrived at Ellendale with few belongings. They purchased a wagon and supplies, a horse and an ox. Some of the relatives, who had arrived earlier, had homesteaded in McIntosh County. So that was where they also went. They traveled about 30 miles west across the hills. A spot near Coldwater Lake was a stopping place known as the Basye Ranch. The Woeszniers went farther northwest about three miles where they settled on a quarter of land (Township 130, Range 67, Section 31 per deed). They were looking for land with rocks from which to build their first home. However, until they were ready to build, a

hole was dug and the wagon box was turned upside down on the hole for shelter. It was all prairie as far as the eye could see. We cannot imagine the courage it took to live outdoors in the month of April in North Dakota.

Living nearby was a relative, William Beglau, whose second wife was a sister-in-law of Jacob Woeszner. He helped them settle and make a home there. Beglau came to America earlier. He was married to ——— Fregien. She died and left two girls; they also died when very young. He then married a widow, (his sister-in-law) the former Mrs. Andreas Woeszner, brother of Jakob.

ON AUGUST 19, 1890 their first child was born. They named her Johanna. Christine was born April 26, 1892; Jacob on March 2, 1894 and Frederick on June 17, 1896. In 1897, a diphtheria epidemic crossed the country and the Woeszniers lost three children at that time. Only little Christine survived. The following year, Johanna was born on October 19, 1898, followed by Martha on July 24, 1900, Jacob J. on August 18, 1902, and Bertha on September 20, 1904. After several years, Frederick was born on March 20, 1910. He was a blonde, blue-eyed little boy. The other children had all been dark-haired even though their mother, Anna Maria, had red hair. (Because of her red hair, the Woeszner family in the Old Country had treated her badly.)

They made their home on this place and built up the farm as the years went by. The house was built in 1907. It had a large kitchen, parlor, and two bedrooms which were small. The entry had two doorways—one into the kitchen (which was used daily) and the other led into the parlor. The reason for the latter doorway was that whenever there was a death in the family, the coffin was at the home until the day of the funeral. Thus a big doorway was needed. The house had three bedrooms upstairs. This house is still on the farm occupied by the Edwin Neu family (Leona's sister, Estella). A summer kitchen was built west of the house. It had two large rooms. One was the cooking area, and the other was the dining area. The use of a second house was to keep the big house cool and clean in the summer since the cook stove was the only means of heat for cooking and baking, summer and winter. A bench was set outdoors with a wash basin and towels for the fieldworkers to wash up before mealtime. The older girls had to do the food preparation while the younger children had to gather the fuel for the stove. This could be cow droppings ("misht"), wood scraps, corn cobs, or whatever could be found that burned.

MANY STORIES COULD have been told about the early days on the prairies, but no one seemed interested enough to listen and record them. All we have now are bits and pieces to put together.

One story was told of how, in the beginning, the family would gather buffalo bones on the prairie, take them to town and

trade them for food supplies. It would take several days to make such a trip. One time it was told that Grandpa Woeszner was gone for several days to get food when the only thing the family had at home to eat was wheat. Grandmother Woeszner browned it, mixed it with water, and called it coffee.

Since there were no older sons in the family, the girls had to help with all the field work or whatever had to be done.

Family portraits were taken to be sent back to families left in the Old Home in South Russia. Some of these pictures we still have to enjoy now. One time Frederick was not about to have his picture taken. So to coax him to pose, they handed him watches and money bags—until his pockets bulged. The older girls were out in the pastures, catching gophers, when they were called home to put on their best dresses and have their picture taken. At another time Jacob fussed because he had to wear knee pants. Most of the pictures were taken by door-to-door photographers. Often, blankets were used for background.

We do not know much about the growing-up years of the Woeszner family. Memories of little Frederick were told of how he used to start saying his prayers at night at the bottom of the stairs—and by the time he got to the "amen," he was at the top and quickly into bed!

Writings, found on the granary walls years later, were almost like a diary telling who had gathered where and the like. Also found on the granary walls were records of grain yields, bushel markings of grain cleaned for spring seeding and the dates when spring work started.

PROVIDING FOR a family in those years took many hours of work. Grandmother Anna Maria would spin all of her own yarn to knit stockings, mittens, caps or whatever else could be made of wool. Her spinning wheel was found years later in the attic of the garage among oil cans and other old items. (I took the spinning wheel to my house, had it repaired and re-finished it. It is now a treasured lamp stand in my home.) Few other belongings which were brought from the old home were kept. A carpenter's plane was among Leona's father's tools.

Grandmother Anna Maria was a very ambitious woman. If anything needed to be done in the house or on the farm, she had the idea to do it, and often did it herself, even if it meant knocking out a hole in the wall for a window. She went to town, got the window frame, and installed it herself. This is how her daughters remembered her best.

Grandpa Woeszner was a kind man with a big heart for everyone. Since the Lutheran church was built about a fourth mile northeast of the farm, the pastor came, left his team of horses and went with the Woeszner family to church. He also had his noon meal (noodle soup was traditional) with the family before going home. The cemetery is still there on the



Farm home of the Jakob Woeszner family. This is now the home of Edwin and Estella (Woeszner) Neu.



Jacob J. and corn cultivator.

hill, protected by a fence.

JACOB J. GREW up as the only boy in the family and was catered to by his sisters—that is until little Frederick came along. In 1917, another epidemic of diphtheria came along and several of the children became sick again. A doctor was called when the home remedies would no longer help, but it was too late. Little Frederick died in his mother's arms. She prepared the little boy's body for burial while Grandfather went to town to make funeral arrangements and buy a coffin. The family was quarantined for several weeks. At the day of the funeral, the parents and family members living at home could not enter the church but had to stay in the entry. Those married and not living at home could enter for the funeral. The family dog also showed his grief and loneliness; he stayed with the coffin until it was taken away for burial.

Grandfather Woeszner told us that one time when a group of New Year's well-wishers came to their home, one man became so excited about the occasion that when it came to shoot his shotgun into the air, he instead held the gun up to the house and shot into the bedroom wall! The shot just missed Grandpa's feet as he was getting up to let the group into the house for a treat. The hole could still be seen a few years ago when Edwin and Estella lived in the house.

Dad Jacob J. never said much about his youth. His school years ended after the fifth grade. Until then he attended

Beresina School #3, about two miles northeast of the farm. Jacob J. was born Aug. 18, 1902 at the farm home and was baptized Sept. 14, 1902 by Pastor A. Meyries with Johannas Maier, Johannas Bertsch and Johanna Hein as sponsors. Custom was to have two men and one woman as sponsors for a baby boy and two women and one man for a baby girl. He was confirmed April 1, 1917 by Pastor H. Lechner who served the church at that time. It was Lechner's first parish.

IN 1920, WHEN Jacob J. was a young man, he met Marie Sackmann. The occasion was when about 1,500 people gathered in Ashley to attend a promotional event—an airplane was scheduled to land there. Jacob J. gathered enough courage to ask Marie if he could take her home. So the romance began.

Marie was the daughter of Andreas Sackmann and Karolina Schlabsz. Andreas Sackmann was born December 16, 1862 at Wittenburg, South Russia. His parents were Johannes Sackmann and Katherina Necker. Andreas Sackmann and Karolina Schlabsz were married February 19, 1884. Karolina, the daughter of Jacob Schlabsz and Susanna Dobler, was born February 5, 1863 at Beresina, South Russia. She grew up in Kulm, South Russia.

In 1891, they came to America and took up claim 11 miles east and south of Ashley

(in Jewell District) and began farming. In 1910, when Marie was six, they moved to Ashley where Grandfather Sackmann operated a harness and shoe repair shop. He operated it until June 1922 when he traded it and the building to G.D. Grosz for land. The shop was located where the present Coast to Coast store is now.

Grandmother Sackmann liked to travel. Every so often she would go along with her sons and daughters for brief visits to the farm which she loved. Sometimes she became so homesick for the farm that she would go to the upstairs rooms in the Ashley home, look to the east towards the farm, and cry. Often she would take the train to Venturia for a day's visit. Since many of the relatives had moved to Montana, she would also go for visits there. Grandpa Andreas and Marie would do the best they could in her absence.

Born to the family were: Christine on August 30, 1884, who married Gottlieb Kessel; and Johannas, born July 14, 1886, and married Magdalina Nagel. After their move to America, Fredricka was born on March 4, 1892. She married Jacob Kessel. Susanna was born November 23, 1894 and died 3½ years later. Jacob was born November 11, 1896 and died at the age of 7. Susanna, who was born August 11, 1899, was raised by the Schulz family and married Fred Fink. Martin was born February 6, 1901 and married Christina Maier. The last child born was Marie on July 18, 1904. She married Jacob J. Woeszner (Leona's parents.)

SUSANNA WAS raised by her aunt, Fredricka Schlabsz, who had married Johann Schulz in 1887 but had had no children. On August 27, 1894, while threshing, Johann stepped through the wood on the thresher, caught his leg in the machine and was badly mangled. He was taken to the house but died from the wound. That same year, on December 20, Fredricka married Johann's brother, David. To further ease her heartache, she took the baby daughter of her sister, little Susanna.

On November 21, 1913, while David Schulz was repairing a windmill on a tower, the hired girl went to the windmill to get water. He called down to her not to start the mill, but because of a storm, she could not hear him. When she started the mill, it swung around, throwing David off. He was injured from the fall and was taken into the house nearby (now the home of Milton Schauer near the courthouse in Ashley). Fredricka was called but he could not speak to her. He died shortly afterwards.

FREDRICKA'S THIRD marriage was to Andreas Schedler on November 25, 1917.

We are told that they were planning to have their wedding at Zion I, near the Woeszner farm home. On their way to the church, they stopped at the Woeszner home. The pastor happened to be there for dinner. Schedler refused to go any further, and so the couple were married there while the guests and friends were waiting at the church. Some called to ask what had happened to the couple. Young Bertha Woeszner answered, "It's all over!" (Das ist alles vorbei!) Being overheard by a sister of Fredricka, the child was scolded for giving out the information.

Mom Marie was born on a farm in Jewell district, which is now owned by Andrew Sackmann. It then had a sod house which consisted of two large rooms as bedrooms, with a lean-to for the kitchen and parlor. The home was heated by the cook stove in the kitchen. Since the bedrooms were not heated, the feather covers were very comfortable on winter nights.

The sod houses were made of earth cut into squares with a spade and then dug up and laid in tiers. The walls were about two feet thick. The few windows were small, maybe two feet square, and then framed with wood. The sod blocks were piled up to the ceiling or roof. The roof beams were laid across the top of the blocks, and the roof boards had a slight pitch (higher in the center). These were also covered with sod. Later, wood was used for shingling the roofs. The sod walls were then plastered over with a clay soil (gumbo) mixed with water and straw and smeared over the sod blocks by hand. This had to be done every year as it washed off easily from rain and snow. The houses were cool in summer and warm in winter. The floors at first were the earth, packed and swept smooth. Later, wood floors were put in and painted, but the paint wore off in the areas most used. The popular colors were grey or orange. The inside walls were whitewashed with a solution of calcimine which was brushed over the plaster. It made it look white and clean. For variation, bluing, used for washing, was added to the calcimine for a light blue tint. The house may have been divided into two rooms with a sod wall for a partition. The oven was built into the dividing wall so that it heated both rooms. For more rooms, a lean-to was added. This was three walls with a slanted room added to the outside walls. Sometimes squares were made of clay, straw and water. These blocks were dried in the sun and then laid in tiers.

Part II will appear in the Winter 1980 issue.

Public Notice

Not all microwave ovens are alike! Get the complete facts on microwave cooking.

If you own a microwave oven, or you're thinking about buying a microwave oven . . .

ELECTRIC APPLIANCES Sales and Service

MAYTAG—Washer and Dryer,
Dishwasher, Garbage Disposal
AMANA CORNING—Ranges,
Ovens

WHITE - WESTINGHOUSE—Refrigerators, Ranges, Water Heaters

LITTON—Microwave Ovens and Ranges

AMANA—Refrigerators and Freezers

AMANA Air Conditioners

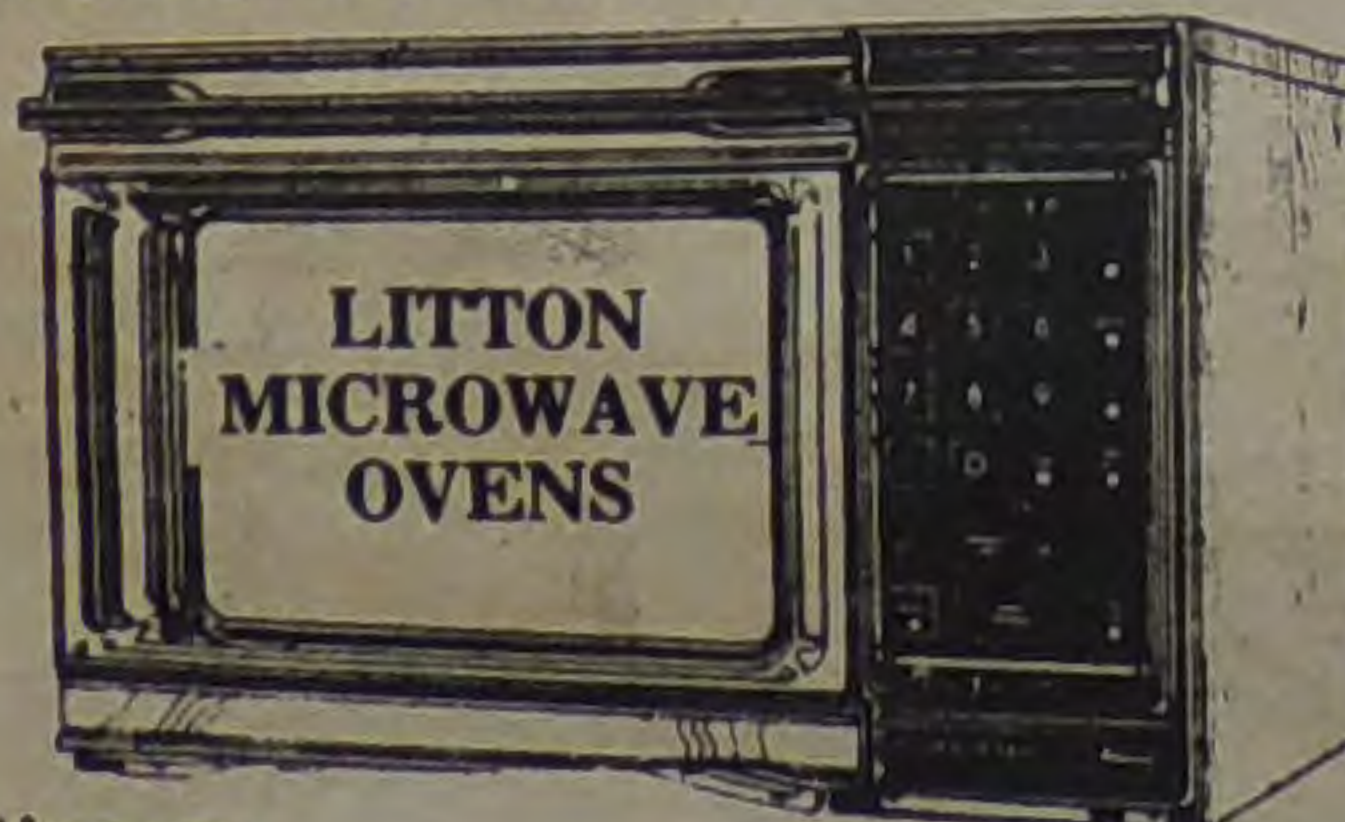
WINCO—Generators

JACKSON—Water Heaters

JEN-AIR—Range and Cook Tops

NUTONE—Range Hoods

WESTINGHOUSE—Dehumidifiers

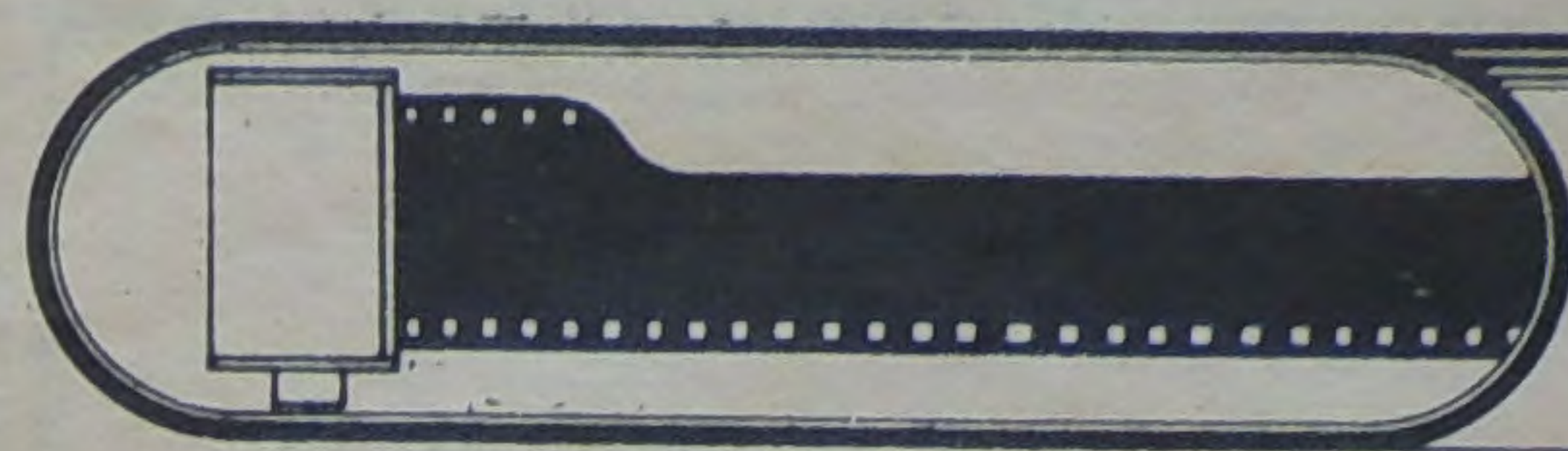


James Valley Electric Coop

Edgeley, North Dakota

Ask for Jim

Phone 493-2281



Picturesque Dakotas

Leola

—a real pleasant town!



LEFT: Ed Heyd plowing and tilling garden at the Oscar Schills.

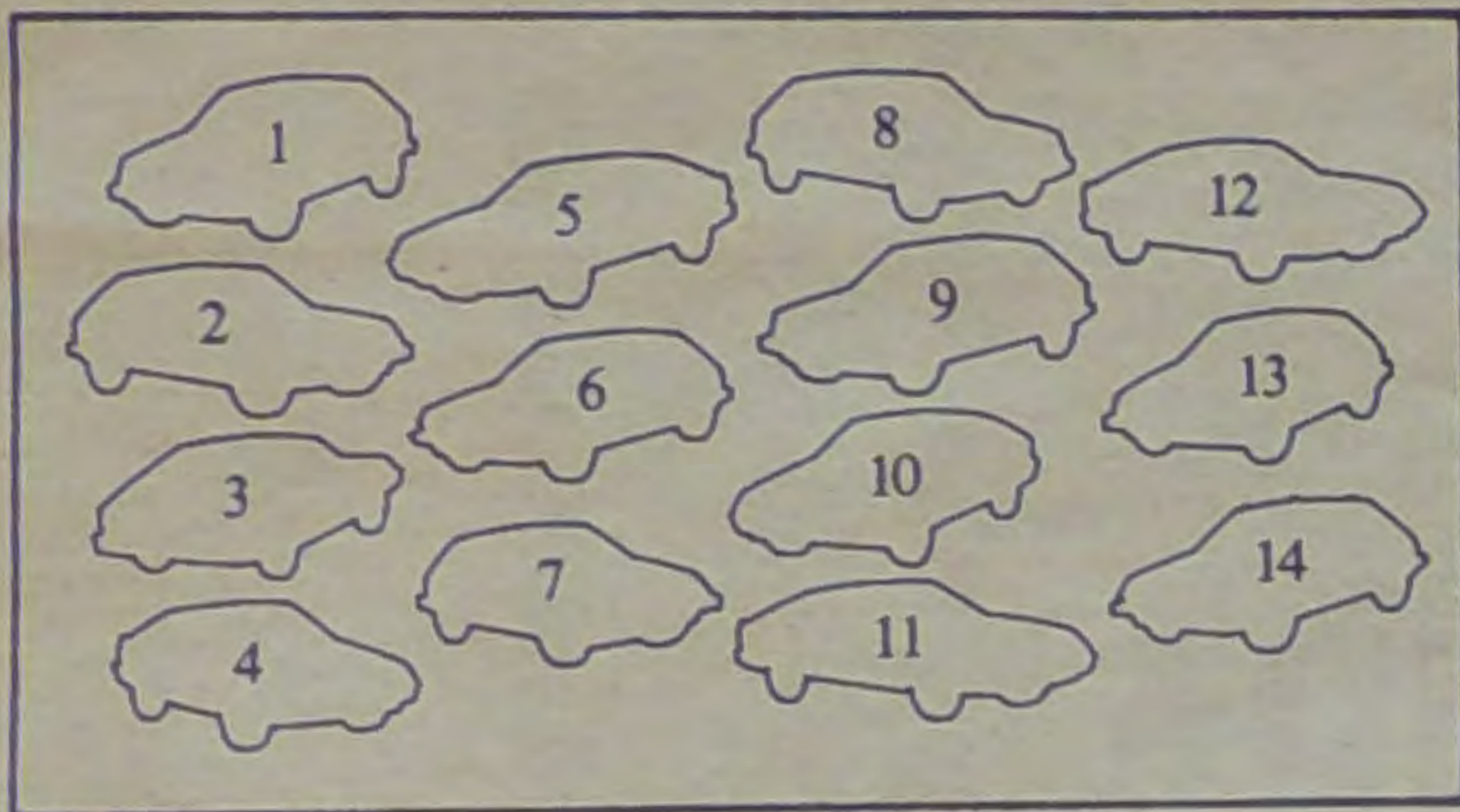


LEFT: Two churches—one big, one small.



BELOW: Old farm tool becomes interesting lawn decoration.

The New Chrysler Corporation Front-Wheel-Drive Buyer's Guide.



1. Dodge Omni. \$5526*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

Standard features:

- 1.7 liter OHC engine
- 4-speed manual transmission
- Electronic ignition
- Vinyl bucket seats
- Radial tires
- Front disc brakes
- Rack-and-pinion steering

- Iso-Strut front suspension
- Independent rear suspension
- AM radio
- Electric clock
- Rear window defroster
- Tinted glass
- Rear hatchback
- Fold-down rear seat

2. Dodge Omni Custom. \$5716*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

Omni standard features plus:

- Custom Trim Package including:
- Vinyl bucket seat
- Woodtone instrument panel
- Wheel lip molding

3. Dodge 024. \$5681*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

- 1.7 liter OHC engine
- 4-speed manual transmission
- Electronic ignition
- Radial tires/front disc brakes
- Rack-and-pinion steering
- Iso-Strut front suspension

- Independent rear suspension
- AM/FM radio/electric clock
- Rear window defroster
- 3rd-door hatchback
- Fold-down rear seat

4. Dodge 024 Sport Appearance. \$6112*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

024 standard features plus:

- Rallye instrument cluster with tachometer, clock and trip odometer
- Black dual remote control mirrors
- Rear air spoiler
- Rallye road wheels
- P175/75 WSW steel belted radial tires

5. Dodge DeTomaso. \$7271*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

024 standard features plus:

- Front and rear air spoilers
- Quarter window louvers
- Rallye Instrument Cluster
- P185/70R13 BSW tires
- Brushed metal roof band
- Four cast aluminum road wheels
- Wheel flares/sport suspension
- Performance 3.5:1 final drive ratio
- Leather-wrapped sport steering wheel
- Blackout lower body and trim treatment
- Black dual remote control mirrors

6. Dodge Colt. \$4526*

(37) EPA est. mpg./47 est. hwy.**

- 1.4 liter MCA-Jet engine
- 4-speed manual transmission†
- Rack-and-pinion steering
- Power front disc brakes
- Styled road wheels
- Reclining bucket seats

- Tinted glass
- Fuel lid lock
- Flip-open quarter windows
- Rear window defrosters
- Folding rear seat

7. Dodge Colt Custom. \$4896*

(33) EPA est. mpg./43 est. hwy.**

Colt standard features plus:

- 1.6 liter MCA-Jet engine
- Floor console
- Twin-stick transmission
- Sport steering wheel
- Cloth and vinyl interior
- Remote liftgate opener
- 155SR-13 WSW steel-belted radial tires
- Rear security shelf

8. Plymouth Horizon. \$5526*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

- 1.7 liter OHC engine
- 4-speed manual transmission
- Vinyl bucket seats
- Iso-Strut front suspension
- Independent rear suspension
- Rack-and-pinion steering
- Electronic ignition

- Self-adjusting front disc brakes
- Fold-down rear seat
- 3rd-door hatchback
- Rear window defroster
- Radial tires
- AM radio
- Tinted glass

9. Plymouth Horizon Custom. \$5716*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

Horizon standard features plus:

- Custom Trim package including:
- Woodtone instrument panel
- Vinyl bucket seats
- Wheel lip molding

10. Plymouth TC3. \$5681*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

- 1.7 liter OHC engine
- Iso-Strut front suspension
- Independent rear suspension
- Rack-and-pinion steering
- Fold-down rear seat
- 3rd-door hatchback

- AM/FM radio
- Tinted glass
- Rear window defroster
- Radial tires/front disc brakes
- Electronic ignition

11. Plymouth TC3 Sport Appearance. \$6112*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

TC3 standard features plus:

- Rear air spoiler
- P175/75 WSW steel-belted radial tires

- Rallye road wheels
- Rallye instrument cluster with tachometer, clock and trip odometer

12. Plymouth Turismo TC3. \$6905*

(23) EPA est. mpg./33 est. hwy.**

TC3 standard features plus:

- Power steering
- Dual remote control mirrors
- Premium interior package
- Halogen headlights
- AM/FM stereo radio

- Rallye Instrument Cluster
- Power front disc brakes
- Four cast aluminum road wheels
- P185/70R13 radial tires
- Rear deck spoiler
- Black finish front, rear and side trim

13. Plymouth Champ. \$4526*

(37) EPA est. mpg./47 est. hwy.**

- 1.4 liter MCA-Jet engine
- Four speed manual transmission†
- Rack-and-pinion steering
- Power disc brakes

- Reclining bucket seats
- Tinted glass
- Styled road wheels
- Rear window defroster

14. Plymouth Champ Custom. \$4896*

(33) EPA est. mpg./43 est. hwy.**

Champ standard features plus:

- 1.6 liter MCA-Jet engine
- Twin-stick transmission
- Floor console
- Sport steering wheel

- Assist grips
- Cloth-and-vinyl upholstery trim
- Remote liftgate release
- Steel-belted radials

**Use EPA est. mpg numbers for comparison. Your mileage may vary depending on speed, weather and trip length. Actual highway mileage will probably be lower than highway estimates. Colt and Champ estimates with 4-speed manual transmission (not available in California). California estimates differ.

*Sticker price excluding taxes and destination charges. †No charge option.

Compare. The New Chrysler Corporation has the front-wheel-drive cars to challenge the imports.



Subscribers, Please Note.

Due to declining numbers of subscribers and rising production costs, we must discontinue publishing PRAIRIES. Subsequent issues will be printed to fulfill present subscribers.

- **Please do not send any new subscriptions to us.**
- **Thank you for your support in the past. We have found the publication of PRAIRIES to be a most interesting project, and have enjoyed meeting many people of this Dakota heartland.**

What's Cooking?

GRAHAM CRACKER BAR

(By Alice Walehof of Zeeland, North Dakota)

2½ cup graham cracker crumbs
¾ cup margarine (soft)
¾ cup sugar
Mix together and press in cookie sheet.
Sprinkle with:
1 cup coconut
6-oz. pkg. butterscotch chips
6-oz. pkg. chocolate chips
1 can mixed nuts
1 can Borden's sweetened condensed milk
Bake at 250 degrees for 30 minutes.

QUICK VEGETABLE SOUP

(By Mrs. Eugene Lehr of Linton, North Dakota)

Brown 1-lb. hamburger and season with:
1 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. pepper
¼ tsp. garlic powder
Combine in large kettle:
2 cups shredded cabbage
1 cup onions
4 cups water
Bring to boil and cook about 10 minutes.
Add:
2 bay leaves
1 No. 2 can mixed vegetables
1 pt. tomatoes
1 tsp. salt
Hamburger mixture
1 cup sea-shell macaroni
Simmer about ½ hour. Very good and so easy.

BARBECUED SPARERIBS

(Arlene Glaesman, Ashley, N.D.)

Cook spareribs until about one-half done.
Barbecue saude:
2 cups water
Salt and pepper
1 medium onion, cut up fine
¾ cup catsup

Postscripts

A column by Barbara Joan Overlie



What is it in us that takes things for granted?
Is it that we have had too much of the good things of life and we just don't realize how blessed we are?

At our mission training seminar in Madison, Wisconsin in July, we heard several speakers relate to the overcrowded conditions in many countries, the lack of nourishing food and the lack of adequate clothing. We saw films on various problems in the Third World. The needs are great—such as the injustice of apartheid in South Africa—and help sometimes seems slow in coming.

But with the sad stories we also heard many promising notes.

In the People's Republic of China, for example, exciting new things are developing. Two Lutheran mission leaders traveled to China last spring and found that there are thousands of Chinese Christians in many cities who are now meeting openly for regular worship services. One of the mission leaders in the traveling group had been born in China, finished high school there, and then returned to China as a missionary until 1949, when all expatriate church workers had to leave. As they entered China this spring, they wondered how the church had stood the test of time. To their great surprise and thankfulness, they found thousands of young and old Christians worshiping in their churches which are in the process of being returned to them by the present Chinese government.

How exciting to meet people you hadn't seen for 30 years! How exciting to learn that many had not given up hope!

Among others, one very moving story was told:

The visiting U.S. mission leaders came upon a church they recognized. A Chinese woman came running out to greet them. She said she was a Christian and had worshiped in secret for years—but with no Bible. Her only "Bible" was the verses she could recite from memory. One of the Americans then reached into his pocket and handed her a Bible. Overjoyed, she hugged it tightly for a long time and then quickly turned to one of her favorite passages. Tears were streaming down everyone's faces. The Americans told us that they were ashamed at their apathetic attitudes compared to the joy of their Chinese friend over the printed word of God.

Under persecution, Christianity has survived and the church has grown in numbers!

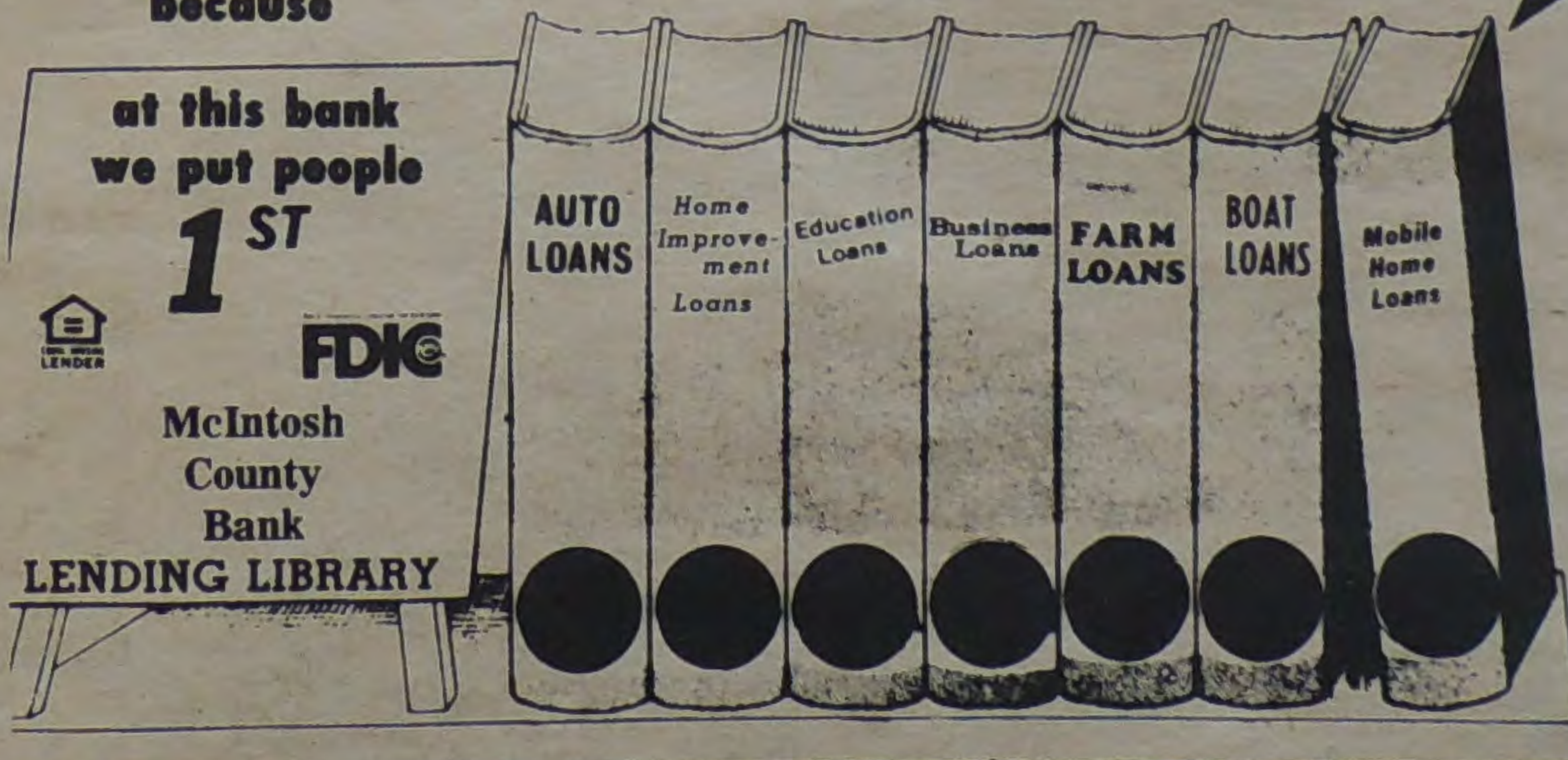
Soon, thousands of Bibles will be printed by a publishing company in China. This is just another indication of the new and exciting trend.

Maybe in the future we will have missionaries from China coming to us and encouraging us to dust off the Bibles on our shelves—and treat it like the large piece of gold that it is.

Or better yet, we could set aside time—starting today. □

Join our lending library!

We make loans for everything in the book. Depend on us, because



McIntosh County Bank

Your community-minded bank!

With office at Zeeland, N.D. 58581

ASHLEY, NORTH DAKOTA 58413

Serving residents of the Ashley area since 1911.

Member FDIC. All deposits insured to \$100,000.

